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Maine Farmer.

SAMUEL L. BOARDMAN, Editor.

Calendar of forthcoming Events.

MAINE STATE FAIR: At Presumpscot Park, Portland, Sept. 17-18. Fair in City Hall. A. L. Denison, Secretary, Portland.

MONMOUTH: Annual Fair at Monmouth, Sept. 1-2. E. H. Nichols, Secretary, Monmouth.

ROCKLAND: Annual Fair at Camp One-L, F. W. Smith, Secretary, Rockland.

MONMOUTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY: Annual Fair, Oct. 2.

SALEM FARMERS' CLUB: Annual Fair at Prospect Hill, Sept. 25-26.

ATLANTIC CITY: Annual Fair at Lewiston, Oct. 1-3. W. B. Weston, Secretary, Lewiston.

FRANKLIN COUNTY: Annual Fair at Farmington, Oct. 10. F. P. Tufts, Secretary, Farmington.

WEST WASHINGTON SOCIETY: Annual Fair at Jonestown, Oct. 12-13. Jas. L. Buckman, Secretary, Columbia Falls.

BRISTOL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY: Annual Fair, at Bristol, Oct. 14-15. F. H. Weston, Director.

Old Subject.

In agriculture there are a good many old subjects, and lots of new sermons have been preached on old texts. Practices change little from year to year, and though they may differ somewhat in different localities most men have a way of their own and are very liable to believe their way quite as good as another. And though our readers are all intelligent men, and understand their own farms and methods of work in order to reach results, better than we do; yet we cannot well help saying something at particular times which we deem reasonable, or giving a few hints and suggestions of particulars of work of "the niche of time"—not for the wise ones who already know enough, but for those one out of a hundred who may not know, or think, or for a man who does not take the Farmer regularly, but who occasionally borrows it of his neighbor. And so long as there is a single man who "don't know," just as long our old mission will continue in full force.

The citizens of Portland, recognizing the importance of a successful show to the business interests of the city, have manifested great interest in the coming fair, and rendered great assistance to the managers in the preliminary arrangements. The fixtures at Presumpscot Park, as all our readers know, are first class in every respect, the accommodations for all classes of live stock being of a superior kind—while City Hall affords one of the best places in the State for displaying a great in-door exhibition. At the approaching fair we trust it will in reality a great industrial exhibit of Maine's handiwork. The products of our mines, mills, shops and farms should be there shown in such numbers and variety as to make a collection that will draw to it from its interest and importance a very large attendance of persons anxious to see and to learn. The arrangement of the hall and its oversight during the fair cannot be better handled than those of Mr. E. M. Height of Skowhegan, who so successfully superintended the hall display of the New England fair last fall. He possesses great capacity in this direction, and will be sure to arrange an attractive display in the department, and satisfy the wants of all exhibitors.

The heads of the several departments of the exhibition, other than the hall, are as follows: Horses, W. F. Garcelon, Lewiston; Cattle, W. P. Ayer, Freedom; Implements, D. M. Dunham, Bangor—gentlemen who were adapted from long experience in the same work in connection with previous fairs, to give good oversight of their several branches. Gen. C. P. Mattocks is chairman of the Reception Committee, and we shall expect to see him at the various fairs with a hearty grace.

Recognizing the fact that State Fairs are in some sense—and that by no means an unimportant one—holiday seasons, occasions of enjoyment and recreation, the managers have made arrangements for introducing each day new and novel games and sports for public amusement, which the public who are fond of amusements will no doubt appreciate and patronize. But we are sorry, we must say, that they have not also recognized the fact that they should be occasions for intellectual improvement as well as for merriment.

Shall we abandon the elections? It is a fair question, whether much of this is a fault of the election, or if the election is a fault of the people? We are not inclined to believe that it is not a fault of the people, but that it is a fault of the election.

There are lapses of virtue in horse-racing which perplexing in a well-ordered Sunday School, have been actualized many a time, to sweepingly deny. That being, gambling in purest sense, and lot-staking, the most common, and the most notorious of these offenses.

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